

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.8, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date: 3-14-00

By Pamela B. Dennis  
Pamela B. Dennis



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

PATENT

Applicants: Sugiyama, et al.  
Serial No.: 08/960,431  
Filed: October 10, 1997  
FOR: **FLATTENING METHOD AND  
FLATTENING APPARATUS  
OF A SEMICONDUCTOR  
DEVICE**

Docket No.: 30598.0004  
Art Unit: 3723  
Examiner: Nguyen, G.

**AMENDMENT**

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Actions dated July 12, 1999 and March 6, 2000,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) A flattening method of a semiconductor device by a chemical-mechanical polishing process comprising,  
preparing a synthetic resin polishing cloth in a circular form and a tool for forming a surface  
layer of the synthetic resin polishing cloth to have fluff thereon in a polishing process, said tool having [an annular shape with] a diameter less than a radial length of the polishing cloth, and  
rotating the polishing cloth along a central axis thereof and pressing the tool on a radial portion of the polishing cloth, said tool being moved along [a radial direction of] the polishing cloth [and perpendicular to the radial direction] to thereby

*HW*  
*6/and+c*  
*3-23-00*

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GP 3723

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL**

Applicant(s):	Sugiyama, et al.	Docket No.:	30598.0004
Serial No.:	08/960,431	Group Art Unit:	3723
Filing Date:	October 10, 1997	Examiner:	Nguyen, G.
TITLE:	<b>FLATTENING METHOD AND FLATTENING APPARATUS</b>  <b>OF A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE</b>		

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Actions dated July 12, 1999 and March 6, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

FEE CALCULATION, CLAIMS AS AMENDED:						
	Claims remaining after amendment		Highest number previously paid for	Present Extra		Additional Fee
Total Effective Claims	21	minus	21 =	0 x	\$ 18.00 =	0.00
Independent Claims	4	minus	4 =	0 x	\$ 78.00 =	0.00
If amendment enters proper multiple dependent claim(s) into this application for first time (per application)					\$260.00 +	N/A
<b>Subtotal:</b>						<b>0.00</b>

**Fee Calculation: Request for Extension of Time pursuant to  
37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)**

☐ Response filed within **first** month after due date - add \$ 110.00  
☐ Response filed within **second** month after due date - add \$ 380.00  
☐ Response filed within **third** month after due date - add \$ 870.00  
☐ Response filed within **fourth** month after due date - add \$1360.00  
☐ Response filed within **fifth** month after due date - add \$1850.00

**TOTAL:** \$ 0.00

If one of the "small entity" boxes above is checked, enter half (½) of the second subtotal and subtract N/A

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98 N/A

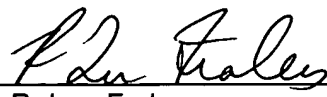
**TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE ENCLOSED:** \$ 0.00

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2727 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

☐ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.

**This statement does NOT authorize charge of the issue fee.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any **deficiency** in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.18 (**deficiency** only) now or hereafter relative to this Application and the resulting Official document under 37 C.F.R. §1.20, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-2814 for **which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.**

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
R. Lee Fraley  
Reg. No. 42,550

Dated: 3/14/00

**SNELL & WILMER, L.L.P.**  
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400 East Van Buren  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-0001  
(602) 382-6305